

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 03268 251252Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8943

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 3268

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU

SUBJECT: ARMENIAN RESOLUTION

REF: STATE 95330

1. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO HEAD OFF SENATE ACTION ON ANY RESOLUTION RELATED TO ARMENIAN COMMEMORATION OF APRIL 24. WHILE THE HOUSE APPROVAL OF THE HELSTOSKI RESOLUTION HAS HURT THE US IN TURKEY, IT HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY CLEAR IN THE LAST FEW DAYS THAT THE EFFECT OF ACTION BY THE SENATE COULD HAVE BEEN NEARLY AS DAMAGING IN TERMS OF PUBLIC OPINION HERE AS THE MILITARY AID CUTOFF -- AND THE TURKISH REACTION IN SOME QUARTERS WOULD HAVE BEEN EVEN WORSE.

2. WHILE SENATOR TUNNEY'S RESOLUTION CONCERNING "ARMENIAN DAY" MAY SEEM INNOCUOUS ENOUGH, THE ANTI-US PRESS HERE COULD MAKE MUCH OF IT, AIDED BY THE EARLIER IMPACT OF THE HELSTOSKI RESOLUTION. SUCH A REACTION COULD JEOPARDIZE THE GOT'S PRESENT EFFORTS TO PREVENT DOMESTIC CRITICISM OF US-TURKISH RELATIONSHIP FROM REACHING THE POINT OF NO RETURN.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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